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#### THE HARVEST

In this country, which has never known a famine or a serious shortage of crops since the very earliest days of pioneering, the importance of the harvests cannot be realized as it is in Europe and especially in Austria and Germany at the present time.

The people of the Central powers continue to believe that victory depends more on their crops this season than on their strength on the field of battle. The grain harvest in the southern portions of both empires has now begun and the coming six weeks will determine the economic strength with which they will face the winter.

Reports agree that the wheat, barley and other grain crops of Hungary, Poland and eastern Germany are larger than ever before but this will mean little unless the crops can be gathered successfully and conserved beyond the reach of invaders. Their root crops are also very large according to indication, and there is no reason for believing that the Central Powers will be seriously short of vegetables for another year.

Their situation, however, as regards meats and fats is more serious. They have practically stopped the use of eggs for several months in order to raise chickens and fowls to reinforce the meat supply but this cannot be large enough to offset the impossibility of bringing in beef, pork and mutton from the great agricultural nations.

Russia in the matter of food supply is stronger than any other of the nations at war. Through the cutting off of her export trade Russia has an immense surplus of grain and meat and Russia's interest in the coming harvest is centered more in such crops as sugar beets, cotton, vegetables and fruits which were in the past received from the countries of western Europe.

France in some respects is worse off than Germany and Austria. France has always raised a smaller part of her food supply than the Central Powers and is more dependent on the ocean carrying trade of the world. With freight rates double and triple and ships impossible to get, prices on many commodities are even higher in France than in any other part of Europe. This applies particularly to sugar and the coarser grains which France has in the past bought from Germany and Russia.

Probably never before has the harvest been so important to the people of Europe as this year of 1916. Great Britain is less concerned with her home crops but because of her interest in the carrying trade she is to a great degree affected by the crops of all the world, and even the lesser and the neutral nations of Europe are watching nature's returns this season as never before.

#### Fish That Sing.

There is a fish called the butterman, which is found off the Scottish coast. This fish, which is fat and comfortable looking, about a foot long as a rule, makes a distinct hooting noise from the back of his throat when landed in a net or caught on a long line. A netful of these fish, though they are rather rare, is sometimes caught, and when they are hauled in the chorus of sharp, siren-like hoots is very startling to a stranger.

But in Ceylon there is a shellfish, a kind of mussel, which positively sings. In still weather when the water has ebbed away from the mussel beds for a few hours these shellfish can be heard producing a long, low, fluty sound. How they do it no one knows, but they make a quite distinct attempt at singing, and as they have no throats they must produce the sound by some manipulation of their double shells.—London Globe.

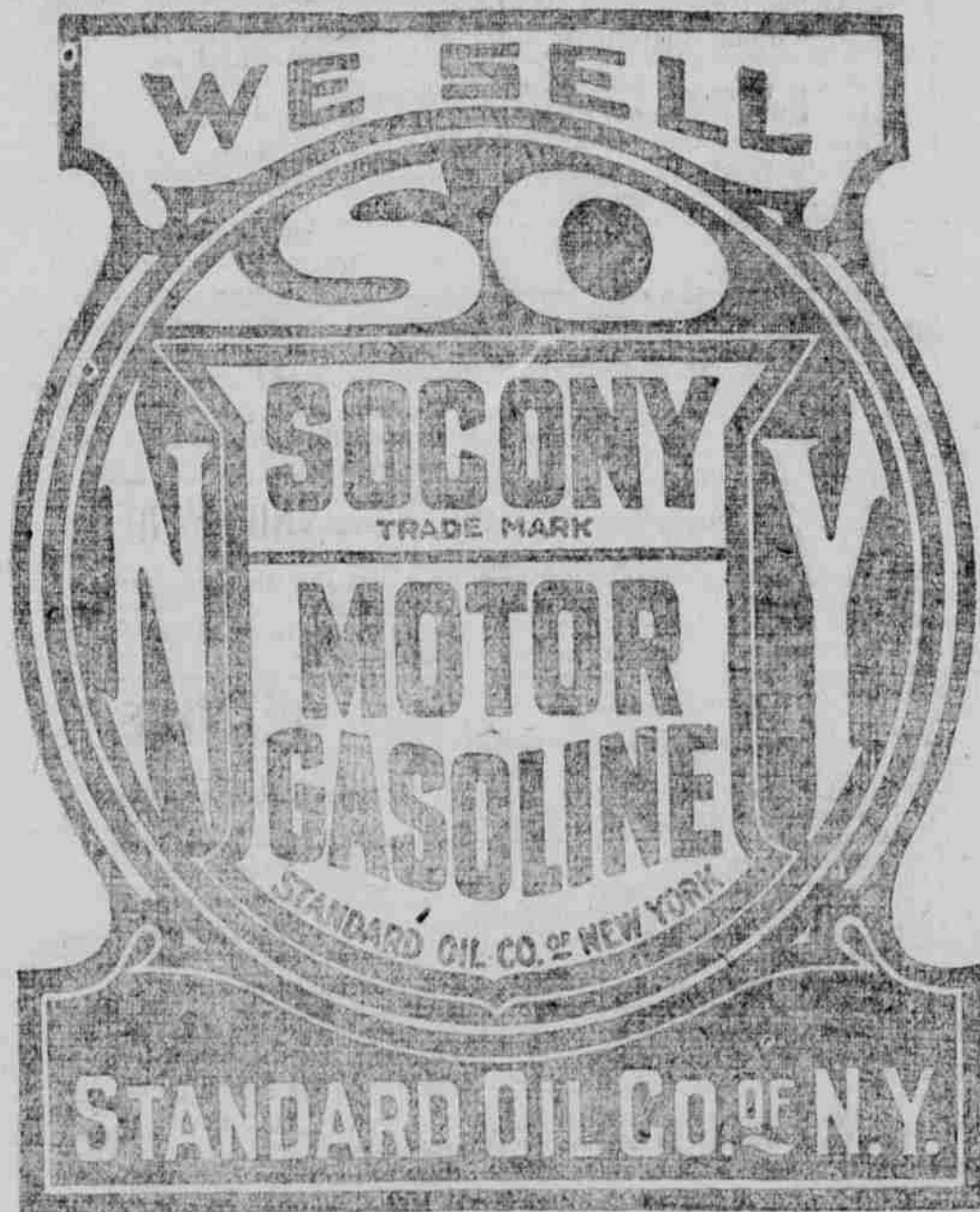
#### Wig Wearing Very Old.

The ancient Egyptians all wore wigs, and the early Christians from A. D. 427 to A. D. 917 considered a false head covering a badge of distinction—this, too, in direct opposition to Tertullian, who in vain declared them devices and inventions of the devil.

#### Little Words.

Out of the 227 words in Abraham Lincoln's immortal Gettysburg speech 190 are words of only one syllable. It isn't the big words that count.—New York Herald.

The worst of the person with nothing to say is that he is never happy till he's said it.



# WARNING to Motorists

The Standard Oil Company of New York produces only one regular grade of gasoline for motor cars—SOCONY Motor Gasoline.

Some dealers and garage men are selling poor blends and worthless mixtures under misleading names, trying to make the motorist believe he is getting our well-known product.

Ask for SOCONY gasoline by name and buy only where you see the RED, WHITE and BLUE SOCONY sign.

Do not let them deceive you. If you want the genuine, reliable SOCONY Gasoline, look for the RED, WHITE and BLUE SOCONY sign on service stations and garages.

This sign is the guarantee of quality, purity and reliability. It insures maximum power and miles per gallon, clean burning, and freedom from carbon troubles.

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